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water shells, 702 species and varieties, represented by 1947 specimens. In this collection there are, it will be seen, over 2500 species and varieties. It is safe to say that the University of Texas has now the largest and finest collection of recent mollusca in the South or West.

THE 'Bibliography and Index of North American Geology, Paleontology, Petrology, and Mineralogy for 1892 and 1893,' by F. B. Weeks, has been issued as Bulletin No. 130, of the U. S. Geological Survey. This Bulletin is a continuation of the annual publication heretofore known as the 'Record of North American Geology' (Bulletins Nos. 44, 75, 91, 99). The extended scope of the work necessitated a change in its arrangement. It is divided into two parts, a bibliography and a subject index. The bibliography is arranged alphabetically by authors' names. The index comprises geographic, geologic mineralogic, paleontologic and petrologic subdivisions, arranged alphabetically; and lists of economic products, minerals, rocks and fossils described in the various papers listed in the bibliography are given. A similar bibliography and index for the year 1894, and another for the year 1895 (Bulletins Nos. 135 and 149, respectively), are in press and will be delivered soon.

THE deficiency of rainfall in Great Britain is this year even greater than last, being so far 4.69 inches. The East London Water Works Company has been compelled to shut off the supply of water during the night, and lack of sufficient water in the east end of London is apt to be followed by an increased mortality.

THE *Lancet* states that an important Royal Commission has just been appointed. Its object is to enquire into the administrative procedure available for controlling danger to man through the use as food of the meat or milk of tuberculous animals. The Commission will further consider what should be the proper action of the responsible authorities in condemning for the purposes of food supplies, animal carcasses or meat exhibiting any stage of tuberculosis. The Commissioners are as follows: Sir Herbert Maxwell, Dr. Thorne Thorne, C. B., Mr. G. T. Brown, C. B., Mr. H. E. Claver, Mr. Shirley F. Murphy, Mr. John Speir and Mr. T. C. Trench.

Dr. T. M. Legge will act as Secretary to the Commission, the work of which, from a sanitary point of view, should be of the highest possible value to the community.

ACCORDING to *Nature* General M. Rykatchef has been appointed Director of the Central Physical Observatory, St. Petersburg, in the place of Dr. H. Wild, resigned. For many years General Rykatchef has had charge of the maritime meteorological branch of the Observatory.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

##### FOREIGN STUDENTS IN THE FRENCH UNIVERSITIES.

OFFICIAL information has been received in Washington by the Franco-American Committee, organized for the purpose of securing fuller privileges for American students in the educational institutions of France, that in all probability the faculties of letters will soon be open to Americans as freely as the other faculties that have already been opened. The Compagnie Transatlantique offers a reduction of 30 per cent. in its rates to duly certified American students who intend to study in France.

There are already fifty or more American students enrolled in the French faculties. Since the promulgation of the decree of January last, changing the regulations in the faculties of science, the number of German students in the French faculties has increased from fifty-two to one hundred and twelve, of whom only sixteen are students of medicine.

The admission of foreign students to the medical schools gave rise to a serious debate in a recent session of the Chamber of Deputies, it being claimed that French students were exposed to undue competition on account of the influx of foreigners, who, by reason of graduation, became entitled to practice medicine in France, and this without being subjected to military duty. It is probable that the regulations will be modified so that foreigners will not be hereafter entitled to the privilege of practice, although the facilities for study and the obtaining of degrees will be as good or better than heretofore.

##### GENERAL.

DISPATCHES to the daily papers from Lansing, Mich., state that the Supreme Court de-

cided on July 28th that the State Legislature has no right to interfere with or dictate the management of the University of Michigan. The Legislature passed an act at its last session directing the regents to establish the homeopathic department of the University in Detroit. The regents refused to comply on the ground that the act was unconstitutional, and a mandamus was asked for to compel them to establish the department in Detroit. The Court holds that the regents have the sole control of the University and that the act of the Legislature is invalid.

GROUND has been broken for the new science hall at Lake Erie Seminary, O. Of the \$20,000 required for the completion of the building, \$14,000 has already been raised. In addition \$10,000 has been subscribed for equipment.

DR. H. T. LUKENS, of Clark University, has been appointed professor of education at Bryn Mawr College, and Dr. Colin A. Scott to the chair of experimental psychology and child study at the Chicago Normal School.

MR. BEN F. HILL, B. S., has been appointed Fellow in Geology at the University of Texas. He will assist in the laboratory instruction in paleontology and mineralogy under the direction of Dr. F. W. Simonds.

MRS. ARTHUR JACKSON has contributed to the Sheffield Medical School the sum of £5,000 towards the endowment of a chair of anatomy, to be called the Arthur Jackson Chair of Anatomy. Mr. Jackson, who died recently, was much interested in the success of the Medical School, and had served it in the capacity of Secretary and Lecturer.

DR. J. NORMAN COLLIE, F.R.S., has been appointed professor of chemistry in the Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy. Dr. Collie has been for some time associated with Professor Ramsay in the teaching of chemistry at University College, London. The Council of Bedford College for Women, London, has appointed Dr. Thomas Morison Legge, to the professorship of hygiene.

AMONG recent foreign appointments we note the following: Professor Valentiner, of Carlsruhe, has been called to the chair of astronomy

in the University of Heidelberg. Professor A. B. Tichamerow has been appointed director of the Zoological Museum at Moscow. Professor Gutermuth, of Aachen, has been made professor of engineering in the technical high school at Darmstadt. Dr. Von Rümker, professor of agriculture in the University of Breslau, has been called to Leipzig. Dr. Henking, of the University of Göttingen, has been promoted to a professorship of zoology, and Dr. H. Biltz, of the University of Greifswald, to a professorship of chemistry. Dr. Schenk, of the University of Bonn, has been elected full professor of botany and director of the botanical gardens at the Technical High School at Darmstadt. Dr. Pauly, docent in the University at Munich, has been promoted to an assistant professorship of applied geometry, and Dr. W. Semmler, of the University of Greifswald, has been made professor of chemistry. Dr. Wachsmuth has been appointed docent in physics in the University of Göttingen, and Dr. Emil Knoblauch docent in botany in the University of Giessen.

DR. ERNST BEYRICH, professor of geology and paleontology, died at Berlin on July 9th at the age of 81 years.

DR. FRANZ REULEAUX, for forty years professor of engineering in the Technical High School at Charlottenburg, has resigned.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE PERSONAL EQUATION.

IN the admirable heliometric triangulation of the cluster in Coma Berenices, by Dr. F. L. Chase, lately published by the Yale Observatory, the author has not noticed that the cluster is one which was photographed by Mr. Rutherford in 1870 and several years since; hence, material is already on record for the proper motions of the group. The cluster will furnish an unusual number of stars which can be observed for personal equation between bright and faint ones, a problem which is not without psychological as well as astronomical interest at the present time. It will be remembered that among very early studies in experimental psychology were those experiments conducted by